

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 7102

By Pody

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend W.P. Bone for his service to his community and Cumberland University.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy individual is W.P. Bone, a highly respected member of his community and the current chairman of the Cumberland University Board of Trust; and

WHEREAS, as Mr. Bone's service on the board comes to a close with his final term ending in June, the university is establishing the W.P. Bone III Endowed Professorship in the Labry School of Science, Technology, and Business to celebrate his indelible contributions to Cumberland University and Middle Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the professorship will provide a faculty member in the Labry School with a stipend to support projects such as course upgrades, research opportunities, experiential learning, and teaching enhancements; additionally, the professorship will serve as a lasting testament to the transformational growth that Cumberland has benefited from under the leadership of W.P. Bone; and

WHEREAS, in his tireless service to the university, Mr. Bone has continued his family's legacy, as the Bone family has been a vital part of Cumberland University's history beginning with his grandfather, who was president of the university from 1909 to 1914; and

WHEREAS, a native and lifelong resident of Lebanon, Mr. Bone graduated from Castle Heights Military Academy in 1958; in addition to serving in the United States Army, he earned

his associate degree from Cumberland University and his bachelor's degree from Centre College; and

WHEREAS, an active and engaged community supporter, W.P. Bone has been involved with a number of local and regional organizations, including Rotary International, of which he is a Paul Harris Fellow and a past president and charter member of the Lebanon Breakfast Rotary Club; the Boy Scouts of America, which he serves as a member of the Middle Tennessee Executive Council; and the Lebanon-Wilson County Chamber of Commerce, with which he previously held the title of executive director; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bone and his family are longtime supporters of the First Presbyterian Church in Lebanon and personally and professionally support many local and national charities, including Habitat for Humanity, CASA, Ronald McDonald House, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Shriners Hospital, Empower Me Center, and New Leash on Life; and

WHEREAS, W.P. Bone is the founder and co-sponsor of the Wilson County Teacher of the Year Award, which celebrates its twenty-fifth anniversary this year, and a member of the highest level of Cumberland University's Presidential Giving Societies, through which his generous philanthropic contributions have truly updated and improved not only the face of the university but the collegiate experience from the moment students step on campus; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bone epitomizes the spirit and commitment to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly acknowledge and applaud W.P. Bone for his dedication and invaluable contributions to Cumberland University; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend W.P. Bone for his lifetime

of service to his community and Cumberland University, congratulate him on the university's endowed professorship named in his honor, and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.